



"learning through play"

Greenhills Gazette

July 2016

Find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/GreenhillsPreschool>

Reminders...

- Kinder's new email address: greenhills@ecms.org.au
- Please ensure we have up-to-date information on your child's enrolment form.
- Ensure that you sign your child in and out as this is a legal requirement.
- Please make sure you pack a warm jacket, beanie, gloves and gum boots and a spare pair of clothes.
- If your child is ill, please keep them at home.
- Please call kinder to inform Educators if you will be late for pickup.
- Please label ALL clothing, snack containers and belongings.

Donations of the following would be greatly appreciated:

- Plastic bags for wet clothes
- A4 paper for printing
- Green scourers
- Spray bottles
- Art materials of any type!

Rosters

Please bring your diaries and sign up for parent helper (even 30 minutes is worthwhile), laundry or gardening.

President's Report

Hello Friends.

Welcome back to Term 3 everyone. I hope you all enjoyed the time with family and friends and made some special memories along the way.

We have hit the halfway mark in the year and it has just flown by. The kids have all settled in really well and now for the 4yr olds, Primary School transition is slowly creeping up. Greenhills Primary School have a buddy system with our preschool, where they send their grade 3/4s down to kinder to interact with our kids. That will be organised soon so be prepared to hear all about the big kids' visit.

Committee and teachers have long discussed uniforms – the need, the colour and the demand for them. As a community it's nice to feel like you are a part of something, something with great values and a great reputation. Uniforms give students a sense of belonging to a particular school, and create an identity for the school in the community. The committee also run it as a fundraiser, so any profits from the things you buy, whether it be a hat or a t-shirt or both, go back into improving our kinder. We are pleased to announce that we are changing the colours of the uniform to match our logo colours – green and purple.

These are in the process of being ordered and hopefully won't take too long to arrive. Uniforms are always available for sale anytime kinder is in sessions with a range of sizes available. Please just ask one of the educators.

On the 30th Of July between 10am - 1pm, the Diamond Valley Library is organizing an Early Years Expo. Last year they had an attendance of over 500 people and children. This is a perfect opportunity for us to promote our Preschool to the community. There will be other activities such as a face painter, Ready Steady Go Kids, a roaming clown/magician, a juice bike, and much more. We will have a table set up so come along and say "Hi".

Have a great week
Magdalene Willey

Important Dates...

**Mojo on Main Shopping
Evening**

Friday 29 July 7-9pm

**ECMS Conference for
Teaching Staff – NO
KINDER**

Friday 19th August

**Please see Educators Report
for more important dates**

Educator's Report

Growling Grass Frogs

There has been a great deal happening at kinder since our last newsletter and a lot more happening this term. The Programming books at the door are on display throughout the kinder sessions for you to look through. This is where educators document what is planned and what emerges during sessions. Please take some time to look through the books and add your thoughts whenever you can.

In striving to create great partnerships with our kinder families we are actively encouraging collaboration and sharing of skills and knowledge. Towards the end of last term, Amber and her family performed a shadow puppet show, Alasdair and his family helped our kinder friends make their own bread rolls, and Leilani and her family shared their Indigenous culture, artwork and family history with the group.



There have also been lots of parents helping out in other ways during sessions and we want to thank you for your invaluable assistance. Please remember that you don't have to commit to an entire session; any time you can spare is welcome. We would love to continue utilising families' skills, knowledge, passions and hobbies within our kinder programs. Some ideas include: sewing, gardening, playing a musical instrument, reading your favourite story book, cooking, aerobics, sharing information about your occupation, woodwork, painting... The list is endless! Please see Educators if you have an idea you are keen to share.

Following on from our kinder friends experimenting with clay, we invited Tracey, a pottery teacher from Nillumbik Living & Learning, to share her skills and knowledge with our kinder friends.



Tracey worked alongside small groups of children and modelled how to create coil bowls and snails

We have also been making vegetable soup with the children inspired by a conversation between Karen and Zoe. Karen observed Zoe and Indie creating vegetable soup in the outdoor kitchen and was informed by Zoe that her Doctor said "we have to eat lots of vegetable soup to keep our bodies healthy".



Harley "It's so good"

Hunter: "Mmm Mmm"

Alasdair: "It's very healthy"

Elliott: "I can taste the pumpkin"

Swift Parrots

The children have returned to kinder this term and embraced the outdoor space, weather and all. They are venturing further afield during their play and there are much larger groups of children working and playing together. We place great importance on belonging and doing things as a group; co-operation is a large part of our program. There have been groups building with the large wooden blocks, digging together for treasure in the sandpit, using binoculars to find things in the trees, using the climbing frames and making things with wood.



We have been playing music together with clapping sticks, learning the rhythm as well as beginning to learn about Aboriginal culture. Meeting time often begins with the word 'Wominjika' which means welcome and a candle in the centre of our circle. We have also been examining Aboriginal symbols on rocks and painting our own with chalk. We have planned an incursion with a local Elder, Ian Hunter in Term 4 who will talk about his tribe and family history, share some artefacts and engage the children in song and dance.



We are slowly introducing fire to the children in preparation for our Fire Night in September. This began with our meeting candle and we progressed to a 'fairy' fire in the sand pit. The children were able to come up with the rules that we need to follow around any fire and we look forward to lighting the fire pit very soon.



The coloured items that children collected during the holidays have been a great source of interest and the children have enjoyed examining the many different items.

Edendale Excursion – Reminder that we will be meeting you all **at Edendale Farm instead of kinder on Tuesday 2nd August at 8:30am.** Please make sure you return your forms as soon as you can.

Congratulations!

Big congratulations to two of our kinder families on the latest addition to their families.

Proud parents Jessie and Timothy have given Akane a little sister Seren.

Very happy parents Bonnie and Charlie were happy to add a male to the family. Indie and Ruby now have a baby brother Finn.

Welcome

We are very pleased to welcome our new educator for the 4 year olds, Debbie Dumbrell. Here is a little bit about Debbie.

Hi my name is Debbie. I live in Greensborough with my husband and two children. My daughter Chelsea is 10 and my son Jack is 7. They both attend Greenhills Primary. I am originally from South Africa and having British parents I decided to travel, London being my first stop. I qualified in childcare over 17 years ago and have been working in the industry ever since, in South Africa, United Kingdom and Australia. I really love my job and enjoy watching children learn and flourish around me. I am so excited and really looking forward to working with you and your children at Greenhills Preschool.

Student Teacher Reflection

Stephanie Brindley was our student teacher last term and has sent us some lovely thoughts on her time at Greenhills.

My placement at Greenhills Preschool was an amazing experience. I was warmly welcomed and was very excited to observe and participate in activities throughout the four weeks. I was continuously surprised by the programs that were offered. I loved the indoor/ outdoor program and the progressive snack time, as it really opened my eyes to the possibilities associated with children's learning, and ways in which we can promote development through the children's interests.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time on placement and learnt so much along the way. Thank you so much for having me. Regards, Stephanie Brindley – Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary).

Important Dates

Fire Night - Friday 2nd September 5.30 – 7pm

Our annual 'Fire Night' will again be held on the Friday night of Father's Day weekend. This provides an opportunity for an early celebration for all the Fathers, and a community coming together, all in one! There will be a large gathering this year, so we need parents to be mindful of their children at all times. Our newly planted areas will need to be protected so we would like them to be more prominent on the night, along with our structures.

Donations needed for the night are:

- Solar lights (in the ground type) for our newly planted gardens
- Solar fairy lights to illuminate our structures
- Clean glass jars with labels removed for our lanterns
- Kindling and firewood
- Fire Master – to be in charge of lighting, feeding and watching the fire pit.

Jars need to be a jam size jar (not too small or too large) with a wide mouth. We will have one on display at the sign in book.



Important Dates – continued...

- Tuesday 2nd August – 3 Year old excursion to Edendale Farm (no kinder)
- Monday 8th August – Yalka Dayan incursion (4 Year olds)
- Tuesday 9th August – Yalka Dayan incursion (4 Year olds)
- Friday 19th August – NO KINDER all staff will be at the ECMS conference
- Friday 2nd September 5.30 – 7pm – Fire Night
- Monday 29th September – Pet Education incursion (4 Year olds)
- Tuesday 30th September – Pet Education incursion (4 Year olds)

Many thanks from all the staff @ Greenhills – Jo, Emily, Karen, Tracey, Debbie and Joanne

Greenhills Fundraising

Greenhills Newsletter Fundraising Report

We hope you have all had a restful school holiday break and are all set for an exciting Term 3! Our fundraising total for 2016 is sitting at **\$2340.40!** Thank you to everyone for your continued support of our efforts. I'm sure that together we can raise even more money towards the next stage of the outdoor redevelopment in the last half of the year! We are still hoping for another member to join our little team to help us organise the exciting events we have planned for the rest of the year. If you're interested in donating a little of your time over the next six months, please have a chat to Jacqui Armstrong, Amanda Furber, Rachel Cusack, Meg Whitaker or any of the other preschool committee members, or send an email to amanda.furber@live.com. We would especially love some help with organising our upcoming Trivia Evening planned for September.

Bunnings Bake Sale

Our Bake Sale held at Bunnings, Eltham on Saturday 25 June, was an amazing success! We were overwhelmed with the number of amazing cakes, biscuits, cupcakes and other beautiful baked goods that were donated by the generous Kinder families. If you didn't see the photos on our Facebook page, we had a huge table filled to the brim! Even more amazingly – we sold everything (except two small plates which we donated to the lovely Bunnings staff)! The grand total for the day was **\$1000.65**, which far exceeded our expectations! A huge thank you to everyone who donated their time and helped on the day, as well as everyone who donated items for us to sell, Bunnings Eltham for having us, and also to Mister Nice Guys, who donated some beautiful mini cupcakes for us to sell. We are hoping to have another Bake Sale in Term 4 as we have, unfortunately, missed out on the Bunnings BBQ Ballot for this year.



Mojo on Main VIP Shopping Evening – Friday 29 July 7-9pm, Mojo on Main, Eltham

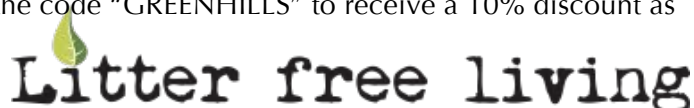
It's not long now until our exciting VIP Shopping Evening at Mojo on Main in Eltham. Tickets are limited, so make sure you have reserved yours through our TryBooking website: <https://www.trybooking.com/LWOZ>. Tickets are just \$20 and include drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic), snacks and also an exclusive show bag, kindly donated by Mojo on Main worth \$20! Tickets are open to everyone, so gather your friends and come along to what promises to be a fun night (we need 30 tickets sold for the event to go ahead)! There will be a mini fashion show with some very special Kinder mums as models and we will also be having a raffle on the night with some great prizes up for grabs, including some bespoke handmade jewellery from My Quirky Valentine, and something from the range of unforgettable handmade gifts from My Minky Moo. These businesses are run by some of our very own Kinder mums (Anna and Debbie from the 4 year old group) and we are very grateful for their support! Please check out their ads at the end of the newsletter and keep them in mind when you are searching for that perfect gift!

5 Cent Frenzy – Coming Soon!

One of our projects this term will be a 5 cent frenzy! This will involve the kids (and their parents or grandparents or friends!) collecting as many 5 cent coins as possible – we all know how useless they are – might as well donate them to Kinder!! More information will be out soon, but start collecting today!

Litter Free Living

At Greenhills we are committed to reducing lunchbox waste and one excellent way to do this is through the use of reusable food wraps and bags. Litter Free Living (www.litterfreeliving.com.au) has an amazing selection of lunch boxes, food wraps, reusable sandwich bags and reusable fridge bags. Please take the time to check out their website and make an order. At checkout, enter the code “GREENHILLS” to receive a 10% discount as well as a 20% commission for our preschool fundraising!



Litter free living

Stuck on You Labels

Our Stuck On You labels fundraiser is still in progress. These labels are a fantastic way to keep track of your child's belongings and reduce the ever growing pile of lost property at Kinder! When you visit www.stuckonyou.biz to order from a fantastic range of kids' labels and gifts simply enter the code “GREENHILLSPRESCHOOL” for us to get up to 20% commission!



stuckonyou®

Newsletter Advertising

We have recently started approaching local businesses to sell advertising space in our Newsletter. If you or anyone you know owns a local business that may be interested in advertising in our Newsletter, which reaches all Kinder families as well as prospective families who may be perusing our website, please contact amanda.furber@live.com to get further details and prices.

Facebook Page

Please take the time to “like” our Facebook page – “Fundraising for Greenhills Pre-school” to keep up to date with our various events.

Upcoming Dates

Mark these dates in your diaries to keep free for some exciting events coming up.

Friday July 29, 7-9pm – Mojo on Main Shopping Evening at Mojo on Main, Eltham

Saturday 10 September – Greenhills Preschool Trivia Social Evening at Apollo Parkways School Hall

October – Living Fundraiser: Following the success of last year's Living Fundraiser, we will be selling vegetable and herb seedlings and seeds – stay tuned for more info!

Regards,

The Fundraising Team

Friends of Greenhills Pre-School

Trades and Services Directory

FLETCHERS



Has Buying, Selling or Leasing Real Estate crossed your mind, but you're not sure where to start?

If I can assist with any questions you may have or point you in the right direction, then please don't hesitate to give me a call. I would love to hear from you.

Kaye Hoverd

0417 325 577 | kaye.hoverd@fletchers.net.au

Daniel Stiglich
0408 521 004

Matt Fleming
0414 434 105



My Minky Moo is another business run by one of our Kinder mums – Debbie from the 4 year old group. Debbie is donating some special items for us to use as prizes at our Mojo on Main VIP Shopping Event – make sure you visit her Facebook page and Etsy store!

My Minky Moo has a range of unforgettable handmade gifts to suit every budget & baby or toddlers needs. Baby gift sets, Quilt collections, nursery & bedroom linen & chunky snuggle blankets, teething toys, cushions and all can have personal embroidery.

Check out all the great reviews about @MyMinkyMoo and order chic & stylish gifts for trendy babies, toddlers & kids at <https://www.etsy.com/au/shop/MyMinkyMoo>





MY QUIRKY VALENTINE

BESPOKE HANDMADE JEWELLERY

EMAIL: ILIKETHIS@MYQUIRKYVALENTINE.COM
INSTAGRAM: [INSTAGRAM.COM/MYQUIRKYVALENTINE](https://www.instagram.com/myquirkyvalentine)
FACEBOOK: [FACEBOOK.COM/MYQUIRKYVALENTINE](https://www.facebook.com/myquirkyvalentine)

Check out the beautiful jewellery at My Quirky Valentine and support one of our Kinder mums – Anna from the 4 year old group. Anna has very generously donated some of her jewellery for us to use as prizes for our Mojo on Main VIP Shopping Event.



Mister Nice Guy's Bakeshop is your allergy friendly one stop shop.

Everything in our bakery is 100% egg-free, dairy-free, lactose-free, cochineal & gelatine-free, as well as certified Kosher, with soy-free, gluten-free, wheat-free, corn-free, Fructose free & low GI options! Located at 151 Union Rd, Ascot Vale 3032. Mister Nice Guy's kindly donated some beautiful cupcakes for our Bake Sale.



Floral Concepts is a local florist and event planning business run by one of our Kinder mums – Jess from the 3 year old group. Jess kindly donated some of the beautiful flowers we used at our Mother's Day Flower Stall. If you have a special occasion coming up and need beautiful flowers, speak to Jess!

